



- Proposed -  
**COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN (CWPP)  
TEMPLATE INSTRUCTIONS**

A CWPP is prepared to enable a county or community to plan in advance for the possibility of a widespread or catastrophic wildfire. The CWPP helps to empower county fire service partners to organize, plan, educate, and take action on wildfire issues that impact public safety, firefighter safety, structures and natural resources.

At this time Alabama's CWPPs are prepared on a county-wide basis except for the larger, hotter counties. In the past the AFC prepared county fire prevention plans and county fire readiness plans. The CWPP will serve both purposes and will involve additional collaboration with county leaders, the fire service and other partner groups.

The instructions listed below provide guidance for AFC county managers, regional fire prevention/LE specialists, fire service partners and community leaders on how to complete the Alabama Forestry Commission CWPP template. Further assistance on completing a CWPP can be obtained by contacting the AFC Fire Division at 334-240-9354 or contacting WUI/Fire Prevention Specialist at 251-937-7771 in Bay Minette or 256-767-1414 in Florence.

### **COVER PAGE**

Enter the county name for which the plan is being prepared and enter the date the plan is completed. Logos are usually found on official county websites and may be used with the approval from the county commission representative. Enter the requested information for the individual that completed the CWPP template.

### **PLAN PARTICIPANTS**

**Community Representative(s):**

Enter names for the local county representative(s). This could include the county commission representative, county fire/rescue association representative, county EMA, etc. Typically these representatives have authority to act on behalf of the county.

**Local Fire Department Representative(s):**

Enter the names of the local fire departments representatives that provide fire protection for the county or protection area for which the CWPP is being prepared.

**Local Alabama Forestry Commission Representative(s):**

Enter the names of the county AFC representative(s) that are assisting with the preparation of the CWPP.

**Federal and other Interested Parties:**

Enter the names of any participating representative(s) from any federal agency (USDA-Forest Service, Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, etc.) or any other interested party such as forest industry, landowner association, conservation group, Firewise board, WUI council, county school board or non-profit group.

**PLAN CONTENTS**

**Community Background and Existing Situation:**

All pertinent county information should be entered in this section. This information may have to be gathered from several sources such as the regional planning commission, county EMA, official county websites, tax assessor, the AFC, etc. The volunteer fire departments and/or fire association can assist in gathering this information.

**Community Base Map and other Visuals:**

A county base map should be inserted or attached here to provide needed information. A county map may be obtained from a variety of sources including the regional planning commission, county engineer, county tax office, the local conservation district, a university, or from an EMA disaster/hazard mitigation assessment if one has been completed for the area.

Any other available community visuals, including any available GIS layers, should be inserted or attached here.

**Objectives/Goals:**

The objectives of the CWPP should be clearly stated in this section. The objectives should clearly define what the county hopes to accomplish with the preparation and implementation of the CWPP. Some examples are included to aid in getting started. The objectives should be as specific as possible. The existing objectives in the CWPP template should be edited as needed to reflect the various communities' needs and priorities.

The goals of the CWPP usually include mitigation practices for hazardous fuel reduction, permanent firebreaks and structure ignitability reduction practices. They may also include public information and education. The existing template goals should be edited as needed.

**Prioritized Mitigation Recommendations:**

Mitigation practices should be listed by priority for hazardous fuel reduction, permanent firebreaks and structure ignitability reduction. All county education and outreach activities and/or events should also be listed by priority order.

**Action Plan:**

The funding needs, timetable for completion, and method or strategy to assess the plans project should be listed here for each identified project. Completion of these items will increase the likelihood of project funding, completion and success.

**Wildfire Pre-Suppression Plan:**

Completion of the information in this section will help to ensure that the community has gathered all pertinent information for use in case of a widespread or catastrophic wildfire. Assistance for gathering this information may be provided by the local fire departments, the county AFC, county EMA, the local unit of a national forest, or wildlife refuge. The items listed in this section should be identified as completely as possible in order to be prepared for a wildfire.

**Additional Comments:**

Enter any additional comments that provide or explain information included in the CWPP or any other comments that are pertinent to the CWPP. Information such as provided in previous AFC fire readiness plans and AFC fire prevention plans may be included here also.

**Attachments:**

List in order any attachments to the CWPP. These could include maps, personnel lists, phone lists, equipment lists, or logistical information.